

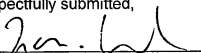
REMARKS

At the time the present Office Action was mailed (September 7, 2007), claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-28, 30-40, 42-47 and 60-62 were pending in the above-captioned application. In this response, claims 26-28 and 30-33 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuation or other application. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-25, 34-40, 42-47 and 60-62 are currently pending.

In the September 9, 2007 Office Action, all pending claims except claims 26-28 and 30-33 were allowed. Claims 26-28 and 30-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 on the basis of published U.S. Application No. 2001/0032788, published U.S. Application No. 2005/0167275, and/or U.S. Patent No. 6,955,747. In an effort to expedite prosecution of the present application, and without commenting on or conceding the merits of the Examiner's position with regard to the Section 103 rejections, claims 26-28 and 30-33 have been cancelled. In light of the cancellation of claims 26-28 and 30-33, all the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner discovers any informalities or other matters that may be expediently handled by telephone, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 359-3257.

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Respectfully submitted,

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